

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ A61F13/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl⁷ A61F13/15-13/84

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2004 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 2002-272781 A (Uni-Charm Corp.), 24 September, 2002 (24.09.02), & EP 1240881 A2	1, 3, 8, 9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
25 October, 2004 (25.10.04)

Date of mailing of the international search report
09 November, 2004 (09.11.04)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011498

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

The independent claims involved in this international application are Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5.

The invention pertaining to Claim 1 relates to a method of manufacturing a wearing article in which type of "elastic member" is not restricted and the widths of a first web and a second web are increased after a cover sheet is mounted.

The invention pertaining to Claim 2 relates to a method of manufacturing a wearing article in which the type of "elastic member" is not restricted (continued to extra sheet)

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1, 3, 8, and 9

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011498

Continuation of Box No.III of continuation of first sheet(2)

and the widths of a first elastic laminated body and a second elastic laminated body are increased after a cover sheet is mounted.

The invention pertaining to Claim 4 relates to a method of manufacturing a wearing article in which the type of "elastic member" is restricted, the widths of a first web for external surface and a second web for external surface are increased, and it is not restricted to use the cover sheet before increasing the widths of the webs.

The invention pertaining to Claim 5 relates to a method of manufacturing a wearing article in which the type of "elastic member" is restricted, the widths of a first web for internal surface and a second web for internal surface are increased, and it is not restricted to use a cover sheet before increasing the widths of the webs.

Accordingly, all of Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are considered not to meet the requirement of unity of invention.

In addition, though Claim 7 quotes either of Claims 1 to 6, in light of a description "elastic member", Claim 7 is not considered to quote Claim 1 in which the type of "elastic member" is not restricted.

As a result, Claims 1 to 9 are considered to be classified into four groups of inventions described below.

1. Claims 1, 3, 8, and 9
2. Claims 2 and 7
3. Claims 4 and 6
4. Claim 5